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FORM (REV.)	PTO-135	0 (Modified) U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTORNEY'S DOCKET NUMBER
(AEVI		ANSMITTAL LETTER TO THE UNITED STATES	R.35646
		DESIGNATED/ELECTED OFFICE (DO/EO/US)	U.S. APPLICATION NO. (IF KNOWN, SEE 37 CFR 1.5)
		CONCERNING A FILING UNDER 35 U.S.C. 371	09/743960
INTE		IONAL APPLICATION NO. INTERNATIONAL FILING DATE	PRIORITY DATE CLAIMED OIR
		CT/DE 00/01586 17 MAY 2000	21 MAY 1999
		NVENTION ELECTRIC MOTOR, IN PARTICULAR AN ELECTRIC ASSEMBLY FOR AUTOMOTIVE POWER ACC	
		IAUK, Detlef FISCHER, Ernst KARCHER, Hansjoerg JRER, Erik WEIGERT, Andreas BOCK, Bernd	HERP, Juergen HURST, Richard
Appl	icant l	nerewith submits to the United States Designated/Elected Office (DO/EO/US) t	he following items and other information:
1.	×	This is a FIRST submission of items concerning a filing under 35 U.S.C. 371	
2.		This is a SECOND or SUBSEQUENT submission of items concerning a filir	ng under 35 U.S.C. 371.
3.	×	This is an express request to begin national examination procedures (35 U.S.C. examination until the expiration of the applicable time limit set in 35 U.S.C.	C. 371(f)) at any time rather than delay 371(b) and PCT Articles 22 and 39(1).
4.		A proper Demand for International Preliminary Examination was made by the	19th month from the earliest claimed priority date.
5.	\bowtie	A copy of the International Application as filed (35 U.S.C. 371 (c) (2))	
		a. $oxtimes$ is transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the Inter-	national Bureau).
N		 b. has been transmitted by the International Bureau. 	
200		c. is not required, as the application was filed in the United States Reco	eiving Office (RO/US).
6.	×	A translation of the International Application into English (35 U.S.C. 371(c)(2)	2)).
17	Ø	A copy of the International Search Report (PCT/ISA/210).	
8		Amendments to the claims of the International Application under PCT Article	
		 a. are transmitted herewith (required only if not transmitted by the International Control of the International	rnational Bureau).
Testi I		 b. — have been transmitted by the International Bureau. 	
(Con.		c. have not been made; however, the time limit for making such amend	ments has NOT expired.
	_	d. have not been made and will not be made.	
9.		A translation of the amendments to the claims under PCT Article 19 (35 U.S.	C. 371(c)(3)).
10.		An oath or declaration of the inventor(s) (35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(4)).	
11.		A copy of the International Preliminary Examination Report (PCT/IPEA/409). A translation of the annexes to the International Preliminary Examination Rep	ort under PCT Article 36
	_	(35 U.S.C. 371 (c)(5)).	
I	tems 1	3 to 20 below concern document(s) or information included:	
13.		An Information Disclosure Statement under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.	
14.		An assignment document for recording. A separate cover sheet in compliance	with 37 CFR 3.28 and 3.31 is included.
15.	×	A FIRST preliminary amendment.	and
16.		A SECOND or SUBSEQUENT preliminary amendment.	# .
17.		A substitute specification.	
18.		A change of power of attorney and/or address letter.	
19.		Certificate of Mailing by Express Mail	A.A.
20.	\mathbf{x}	Other items or information:	·.
		Transunttal Sheets in duplicate w/fees charged to Dep.Acct. 07-2100 Copy of German Text Application w/3 sheets drawings Translation of German Text Application w/3 sheets drawings Executed Declaration (not enclosed) Assignment to Robert Bosch GmbH (not enclosed) Preliminary Amendment Copy of PCT/RO/101, PCT/ISA/210, 220	
20.	i z ij	Transmittal Sheets in duplicate w/fees charged to Dep.Acct. 07-2100 Copy of German Text Application w/3 sheets drawings Translation of German Text Application w/3 sheets drawings Executed Declaration (not enclosed) Assignment to Robert Bosch GmbH (not enclosed) Preliminary Amendment	

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21.	The fol	lowing fees	are submitted:.					CALCULATION	S PTO USE ONLY
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Detlef Lauk et al.

Based on PCT/DE 01586

For: Electric Motor, in Particular an Electric Motor-and-Gear Assembly for Automatic

Power Accessories

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Prior to examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Page 1, between the title and first line of the specification, insert the following:

-- Cross-Reference to Related Applications

This application is a 35 USC 371 application of PCT/DE 00/01586 filed on May 17, 2000.--.

line 3, delete "Prior Art" and insert --Background of the Invention--;

after line 3, insert -- Field of the Invention --;

line 4, delete "is based on" and after "an" insert --improved--;

same line, delete "in" and insert -- and more particularly to--;

line 5, delete "particular";

line 7, after "like" delete "of the generic type defined in the preamble to claim 1":

between lines 8 and 9, insert --Description of the Prior Art--;
line 9, delete "this kind with" and insert --the type with which this
invention is concerned and employing--;

line 10, delete "(DE 198 58 233.1), the proposal has already";
line 11, delete "been made to dispose" and insert --with-- and after "brushes" insert --disposed--;

line 13, after "cover" insert --is disclosed in DE 198 58 233.1--.

Page 2, line 3, delete "Advantages" and insert --Summary--; line 4, before "invention" insert --present--.

Page 3, delete lines 1-3;

line 4, before "Drawings" and insert --Brief Description of the--;

delete lines 5-6 and insert --Other features and advantages of the invention will became apparent from the detailed description contained herein below, taken in conjunction with the drawings, in which--;

line 9, delete "depiction" and insert --view--; line 11, delete "shows a depiction" and insert --is a view--; line 16, delete "shows a depiction" and insert --is a view--; same line, delete "according to" and insert --of--.

Page 4, line 1, delete "Exemplary" and insert -- Preferred--.

line 9, after "seal" insert -- (not shown)--.

Page 5, line 12, after "17" insert --of--.

Page 6, line 3, delete "tabs" and insert --sleeves--:

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line 9, delete "a";
line 10, delete "an";
line 16, delete "is in turm" and insert --and--;
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line 17, delete "a" and "depiction".

Page 7, line 19, delete "electrical connection of the";

line 20, before "to" insert -- are electrically connected --:

after line 24, insert the following paragraph:

--The foregoing relates to preferred exemplary embodiments of the invention, it being understood that other variants and embodiments thereof are possible within the spirit and scope of the invention, the latter being defined by the appended claims.--.

IN THE CLAIMS

Page 1, line 1, delete "Claims" and insert -- We Claim --.

Please cancel claims 1-6 and add new claims 7-14.

7. An electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories such as front and rear wipers, power window units, or the like, said assembly having a transmission casing (10) closed by means of a casing cover (12), and having a socket (13) that is disposed in the casing cover (12) and adapted to be contacted by means of a connector plug in order to connect the electric motor to the electrical system of the vehicle, and an interchangeable adapter (15; 15'; 15") attached to said socket (13), said adapter having a first group (16) of electrical contacts adapted to the socket (13) and a second group (17) of electrical contacts adapted to

the connector plug, said contacts of the two contact groups (16, 17) being connected to one another in an electrically conductive manner inside the adapter (15: 15").

- 8. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 7, wherein the socket (13) has plug sleeves (14) and the contacts of the two contact groups (16, 17) of the adapter (15; 15") are comprised of plug tabs (18, 19) of which the one group of plug tabs (18) are embodied so that they can be slid in a positively engaging fashion into the plug sleeves (14) of the socket (13) and the other plug tabs (19) are embodied so that they can be slid in a positively engaging fashion into plug sleeves of a connector plug.
- The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 8, wherein the plug sleeves
 of the socket (13) are incorporated directly into the casing cover (12), preferably are cast into it.
- 10. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 8, wherein the adapter (15; 15') has an adapter body (20; 20') a first end (201) with a recess (22) formed therein in which the plug tabs (19) of one contact group (17) are disposed and can be accessed and that the plug tabs (18) of the other contact group (16) protrude from an underside surface of the adapter body (20; 20') close to a second end (202) of the adapter body (20; 20').
- 11. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 10, wherein the electrical connection between the plug tabs (18, 19) is produced by means of strips or struts

- (21) disposed in the adapter body (20; 20') whose ends have the plug tabs (18, 19) formed onto them and of one piece with them.
- 12. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 8, wherein the adapter (15") is embodied as a flat plastic plate (23) and the plug tabs (18) of the one contact group (16) protrude from one side of the plastic plate (23) and the plug tabs (19) of the other contact group (17) protrude from the other side of the plastic plate (23).
- 13. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 9, wherein the adapter (15; 15') has an adapter body (20; 20') a first end (201) with a recess (22) formed therein in which the plug tabs (19) of one contact group (17) are disposed and can be accessed and that the plug tabs (18) of the other contact group (16) protrude from an underside surface of the adapter body (20; 20') close to a second end (202) of the adapter body (20; 20').
- 14. The motor-and-gear assembly according to claim 9, wherein the adapter (15") is embodied as a flat plastic plate (23) and the plug tabs (18) of the one contact group (16) protrude from one side of the plastic plate (23) and the plug tabs (19) of the other contact group (17) protrude from the other side of the plastic plate (23).

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please substitute the attached Abstract of the Disclosure for the original abstract as filed.

REMARKS

The above amendments are being made to place the application in better condition for examination.

Entry of the amendment is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted.

Ronald E. Greigg Registration No. 31,517 Attorney for Applicants Payor No. 002119

Greigg & Greigg P.L.L.C. 1423 Powhatan Street Unit One

Alexandria, Virginia 22314 Telephone: (703) 838-5500 Facsimile: (703) 838-5554

Abstract of the Disclosure

In an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories such as front and rear wipers, power window units, or the like, having transmission casing, that can be closed by means of a casing cover, and having a socket that is disposed in the casing cover and can be contacted by means of a connector plug in order to connect the electric motor to the electrical system of the vehicle, for the sake of a uniform, single design of the socket when there are structurally varied designs of connector plugs, the socket is attached to an interchangeable adapter which has a first group of electrical contacts adapted to the socket and a second group of electrical contacts adapted to the connector plug. The contacts of the two contact groups, which are comprised of plug tabs, are connected to one another in an electrically conductive manner inside or along a surface of the adapter.

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Electric Motor, in Particular an Electric Motor-and-Gear Assembly for Automotive Power Accessories

Prior Art

The invention is based on an electric motor, in particular an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories such as front and rear wipers, power window units, or the like, of the generic type defined in the preamble to claim 1.

In an electric motor-and-gear assembly of this kind with a commutator motor (DE 198 58 233.1), the proposal has already been made to dispose the commutator and commutator brushes in the transmission casing and thereby to embody the socket on the transmission casing cover. The socket is constituted by pins which are disposed in a pocket protruding tangentially from the assembly cover. The connector plug to the electrical system of the vehicle is slid into the pocket, wherein its pluq contacts, embodied as pluq sleeves or bushings, are slid in a properly functioning manner onto the pins of the socket.

Since the different vehicle manufacturers predetermine different designs and plug positions of the connector plug to the electrical system of the vehicle, the supplier of the motor-and-gear assembly is required to design, manufacture, and store transmission casing covers that are adapted specifically to these connector plugs so that the motor-and-

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gear assembly can be connected to a particular transmission casing cover for each vehicle manufacturer.

Advantages of the Invention

The electric motor according to the invention, in particular an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories, has the advantage of a simplified and inexpensive manufacture since as a result of the adapter which is adapted to the connector plug to the electrical system of the vehicle, which is also referred to as the client plug, the casing cover with the socket can be uniformly embodied for all clients and only the small adapter part must be specifically manufactured for each client. This reduces the tool costs for the injection molding of the casing cover and permits the number of casing covers that can be manufactured with one tool to be considerably increased so that manufacturing costs decrease as production numbers increase. Moreover, the design cost is also reduced since designing the new adapter according to client specifications is less demanding than adapting the entire casing cover to client specifications. The functions of the connector plug in the casing cover, such as the parked position, interference suppression, contact position, and testing position when using the motor-and-gear assembly for driving windshield wipers can therefore have a uniform, single design.

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Advantageous improvements and updates of the electric motor disclosed in claim 1 are possible through the measures taken in the remaining claims.

Drawings

The invention will be explained in detail below in conjunction with exemplary embodiments shown in the drawings.

- Fig. 1 shows a detailed top view of an electric motorand-gear assembly with a uniform socket,
- Fig. 2 is a perspective depiction of an adapter for plugging into the uniform socket in Fig. 1,
- Fig. 3 shows a depiction similar to Fig. 2 of an adapter according to another exemplary embodiment,
- Fig. 4 is a top view of the transmission casing of the motor-and-gear assembly in Fig. 1, with an adapter plugged into the uniform socket according to Fig. 3,
 - Fig. 5 shows a depiction similar to Fig. 2, according to a third exemplary embodiment.

The electric motor-and-gear assembly, a detailed top view

of which is shown in Fig. 1 as an example for a common electric motor, is used for example to drive a windshield

wiper of a motor vehicle. It has a transmission casing 10 and a motor casing 11 attached to it. The transmission casing 10, which contains a transmission that is not shown here, has a mounting opening that is closed by a casing cover 12, wherein a seal is inserted between the casing cover 12 and the

transmission casing 10 to produce a dust and moisture seal. The motor casing 11 contains the electric motor, which is embodied for example as a commutator motor, whose rotor shaft supporting the commutator protrudes into the transmission casing. Correspondingly, the commutator brushes cooperating with the commutator are disposed in the transmission casing 10 and a socket 13 for supplying power to the commutator motor and controlling it is disposed in the casing cover 12. The

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motor-and-gear assembly is connected to the electrical system of the vehicle by means of a connector plug (not shown here), which contacts the socket 13. The socket 13 has a single design and is provided with uniform electrical functions such as a parked position, interference suppression, uniform contact position, and testing position. In the exemplary embodiment, the socket 13 has a total of five connection contacts which are embodied as a plug bushings or a plug sleeves 14 and are incorporated directly into the casing cover 12, preferably during the injection molding of the casing

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cover 12 and are molded in place with plastic. The plug sleeves 14 are contacted by a pressed screen, individual strip conductors, or a printed circuit board on the inside of the casing cover 12.

In order to make the motor-and-gear assembly compatible

with variously designed connector plugs from different vehicle manufacturers, and to avoid an adaptation of the socket 13 to the different connector plugs and thereby to prevent constant structural alterations to the casing cover 12, an adapter 15 is kept on hand, which is shown in a perspective depiction in Fig. 2, which has a first group 16 of electrical contacts adapted to the socket 13 and a second group 17 electrical contacts adapted to the connector plugs predetermined by the vehicle manufacturer. Inside the adapter 15, the contacts of the two contact groups 16, 17 are connected to each other in an electrically conductive manner. The adapter 15 has an adapter body 20, whose cross section corresponds to a flattened oval whose longitudinal sides are parallel to each other. A cavity-shaped recess 22 is let into the one end 201 of the adapter body 20. The contacts of the two contact groups 16, 17 are respectively embodied as flat plug tabs 18, 19, wherein in the vicinity of the end 202 remote from the recess 22, the plug tabs 18 of the first contact group 16 protrude from the bottom longitudinal side of the adapter body 20 and inside the recess 22 of the adapter body 15, the plug tabs 19 of the second contact group 17 protrude axially from the

bottom of the recess 22 and can be freely accessed inside the

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recess 22. The plug tabs 18, 19 are dimensioned and disposed so that the plug tabs 18 can be slid in a positively engaging manner into the plug tabs 14 of the socket 13 and the plug tabs 19 can be slid in a positively engaging manner into corresponding plug bushings of the client-specific connector plug. As indicated with dashed lines in Fig. 2, the plug tabs 18 are electrically connected to the plug tabs 19 by means of strips or struts 21 whose ends are formed onto the plug tabs 18 and 19 and are of one piece with them. The struts 21 are a fixed in the adapter body 20 in an axially parallel alignment, with a definite distance from one another.

Fig. 3 shows another exemplary embodiment of an adapter 15' which fulfills the client requirement for a particular spatial alignment of the client-specific connector plug in relation to the motor-and-gear assembly. The adapter 15', which is designed with an angled adapter body 20', is in turn shown in a perspective depiction, which also shows the open end 201 with the plug tabs 19 disposed in the recess 22 and the plug tabs 18 protruding downward at right angles from the other end 202 of the adapter body 20'.

Fig. 4 shows the transmission casing 10 of the motor-andgear assembly according to Fig. 1, wherein the adapter 15' according to Fig. 4 is plugged into the uniform socket 13 in the transmission casing cover 12, so that the plug tabs 18 protruding from the bottom of the adapter body 20' are slid into the plug sleeves 14 of the uniform socket 13. The plug tabs 19 accessible at the one end 201 of the adapter body 20' meanwhile have not yet been connected to the client-specific connector plug which must now be slid into the recess 22 provided on the end 201.

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In an alternative embodiment shown in Fig. 5, the adapter 15" is embodied as a flat plastic plate 23 and the contacts of the two contact groups 16, 17 are comprised of plug tabs 18, 19 affixed in the plastic plate 23, wherein the plug tabs 18 of the first contact group 16 protrude at right angles from one side of the plastic plate 23, in this instance the bottom, and the plug tabs 19 of the second contact group 17 protrude at right angles from the other side of the plastic plate 23, in this instance the top. The plug tabs 18, 19 pass through to the other side of the plastic plate 23 and are dimensioned and disposed so that the plug tabs 18 can be slid in a positively engaging manner into the plug sleeves 14 of the socket 13 and the plug tabs 19 can be slid in a positively engaging manner into corresponding plug bushings of the client-specific connector plug. The electrical connection of the plug tabs 18 to the plug tabs 19 on the underside of the plastic plate 23 from which the plug tabs 18 protrude. The electrical connections are embodied as strip conductors, which contact the ends of the plug tabs 18 and the ends of the plug tabs 19 which pass through to the underside of the plastic plate 23.

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Claims

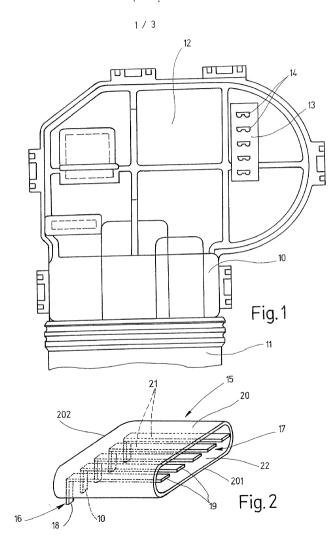
- 1. An electric motor, in particular an electric motor-and-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories such as front and rear wipers, power window units, or the like, having a casing, in particular a transmission casing (10), that can be closed by means of a casing cover (12), and having a socket (13) that is disposed in the casing cover (12) and can be contacted by means of a connector plug in order to connect the electric motor to the electrical system of the vehicle, characterized in that the socket (13) is attached to an interchangeable adapter (15; 15'; 15") which has a first group (16) of electrical contacts adapted to the socket (13) and a second group (17) of electrical contacts adapted to the connector plug, and that the contacts of the two contact groups (16, 17) are connected to one another in an electrically conductive manner inside the adapter (15; 15'; 15").
- 2. The motor according to claim 1, characterized in that the socket (13) has plug sleeves (14) and the contacts of the two contact groups (16, 17) of the adapter (15; 15'; 15") are comprised of plug tabs (18, 19) of which the one group of plug tabs (18) are embodied so that they can be slid in a positively engaging fashion into the plug sleeves (14) of the socket (13) and the other plug tabs (19) are embodied so that they can be slid in a positively engaging fashion into plug sleeves of a connector plug.

- 3. The motor according to claim 2, characterized in that the plug sleeves (14) of the socket (13) are incorporated directly into the casing cover (12), preferably are cast into it.
- 4. The motor according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the adapter (15; 15') has an adapter body (20; 20') whose one end (201) has a recess (22) in which the plug tabs (19) of one contact group (17) are disposed and can be accessed and that the plug tabs (18) of the other contact group (16) protrude from the underside of the adapter body (20; 20') close to the other end (202) of the adapter body (20; 20').
- 5. The motor according to claim 4, characterized in that the electrical connection between the plug tabs (18, 19) is produced by means of strips or struts (21) disposed in the adapter body (20; 20') whose ends have the plug tabs (18, 19) formed onto them and of one piece with them.
- 6. The motor according to claim 2 or 3, characterized in that the adapter (15") is embodied as a flat plastic plate (23) and that the plug tabs (18) of the one contact group (16) protrude from one side of the plastic plate (23) and the plug tabs (19) of the other contact group (17) protrude from the other side of the plastic plate (23).

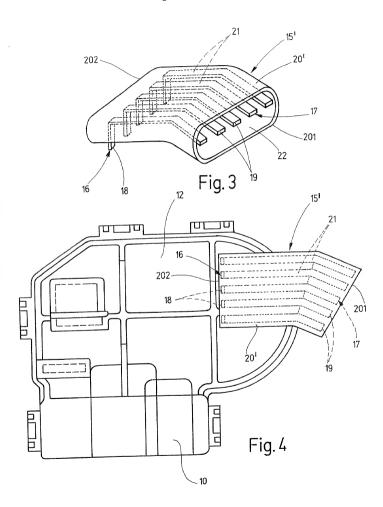
Abstract

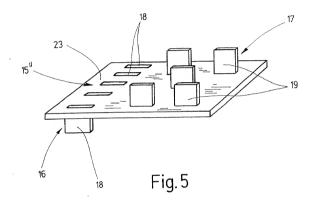
In an electric motor, in particular an electric motorand-gear assembly for driving automotive power accessories such as front and rear wipers, power window units, or the like, having a casing, in particular a transmission casing (10), that can be closed by means of a casing cover (12), and having a socket that is disposed in the casing cover (12) and can be contacted by means of a connector plug in order to connect the electric motor to the electrical system of the vehicle, for the sake of a uniform, single design of the socket when there are structurally varied designs of connector plugs, the socket is attached to an interchangeable adapter (15') which has a first group (16) of electrical contacts adapted to the socket (13) and a second group (17) of electrical contacts adapted to the connector plug. The contacts of the two contact groups (16, 17), which are comprised of plug tabs (18, 19), are connected to one another in an electrically conductive manner inside the adapter (15')

(Fig. 4).



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Docket No. R.35646

Declaration and Power of Attorney For Patent Application English Language Declaration

As a below named inventor, I hereby declare that:

My residence, post office address and citizenship are as stated below next to my name.

I believe I am the original, first and sole inventor (if only one name is listed below) or an original, first and joint inventor (if plural names are listed below) of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled

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Applic	Application Number PCT/DE 00/01586							
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			tand the contents of the above i dment referred to above.	dentified	specification			
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POWER OF ATTORNEY: As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) and/or agent(s) to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith. (list name and registration number) Ronald E. Greigg - Registration No. 31.517 Payor No. 002119
Send Correspondence to: Ronald E. Greigg Greigs & Greigs P.L.L.C. 1423 Powhatan Street, Unit One.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314
Direct Telephone Calls to: (name and telephone number)
Ronald E. Greigg - (703) 838-5500/Telephone - (703) 838-5554/Facsimile
Action 23 divises (144) decreased (145) and the contract of th
lo.
Full name of sole or first inventor Full name of sole or first inventor
Sole or first inventor's signature Date
Residence 77871 Renchen, Germany
Citizenship Deutsch
Post Office Address Badstr. 14
77871 Renchen, Germany
Neull name of second inventor, if any
W Ernst FISCHER / Emist finder 28.03.2007
Second inventor's signature Date

2	Full name of second inventor, if any Ernst FISCHER	\overline{A}	Erust Finder	28.03.2001
	Second inventor's signature			Date
	Residence 76593 Gernsbach, Germany	MEX		
	Citizenship Deutsch	φ - · · · ·		
	Post Office Address Ludwig-Dill-Str. 6			
	76593 Gernsbach, Germany			

Full name of third inventor, if any	10 07 111
Full name of third inventor, if any Hansjoerg KARCHER Third inventor's signature Full name of third inventor, if any Ful	49.03.01 Date
Third inventor's signature	Date
Residence 77830 Buchlertal, Germany (/)F-X	
Citizenship Deutsch	
Post Office Address Buechelbachstr. 6	
77830 Buehlertal, Germany	
Full name of fourth inventor, if any Juergen HERP	
Fourth inventor's signature Lingen Herp	16 3.01
Residence 77815 Buchl, Germany	
Citizenship Deutsch	
Post Office Address Am Neuen Weg 13	
77815 Buehl, Germany	
Full name of fifth inventor, if any Erik MAURER ABu 1. h 3	20. 3.01
	Date
Fifth inventors signature Residence	Date
Fifth inventors signature Residence 77815 Buchlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch	Date
Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address	Date
Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10 77815 Buehlertal, Germany	Date
Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10	Date
Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10	Date
Fifth inventors signature Residence 77815 Buchlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10 77815 Buchlertal, Germany Full name of sixth inventor, if any Andreas WIEGERT	Date
Fifth inventors signature Residence 77815 Buchlertal, Germany Citizenship Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10 77815 Buchlertal, Germany Full name of sixth inventor, if any Andreas WIEGERT Sixth-inventor's signature Andreas August Residence 77876 Kappelrodeck, Germany	
Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Full name of sixth inventor, if any Andreas WIEGERT Sixth Inventor's Signature Residence 77876 Kappelrodeck, Germany Citizenship Deutsch	Date
Fifth inventor's signature Residence 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Deutsch Post Office Address Butschenbergweg 10 77815 Buehlertal, Germany Full name of sixth inventor, if any Andreas WIEGERT Sixtrinventor's signature Andreas Wiegert Andreas Wiegert Residence 77876 Kappelrodeck, Germany	Date

	Pag
Full name of seventh inventor, if any Bernd BOCK	
Seventh inventor's signature	Date
Residence DV	26.03.20
77830 Buehlertal, Germany / F/	
Citizenship Deutsch	
Post Office Address	
Hansjakobweg 41	
77830 Buehlertal, Germany	
Full name of eighth inventor, if Richard HURST	
Eighth inventor's signature Ridd H	20.03 Date 2001
Residence 77656 Offenburg, Germany	
Citizenship Deutsch	
Post Office Address	
Gottwaldstr. 8a	
77656 Offenburg, Germany	
Full name of ninth inventor, if any	
Ninth inventor's signature	Date
Residence	
Citizenship	
Citizenship	
Citizenship	
Citizenship Post Office Address	
Citizenship	
Citizenship Post Office Address	Date
Citizenship Post Office Address Full name of tenth inventor, if any	Date
Citizenship Post Office Address Full name of tenth inventor, if any Tenth inventor's signature	Date
Citizenship Post Office Address Full name of tenth inventor, if any Tenth inventor's signature Residence	Date